



# HOUSE MAJORITY OFFICE

Representative Carlos Lopez – Cantera, Majority Leader

## Q & A

### ***Regulatory Reduction***

#### ***House Bills 5005-Deregulation of Professions & Occupations; 5007-Reducing & Streamlining Regulations***

**Question:** How will deregulation help Florida's economy?

- **Response:** Deregulation allows an industry to foster greater competition, create a freer marketplace and hopefully spur economic growth both within that marketplace, and in the overall economy. When industries become deregulated, they have greater leeway in which to improve their products, craft their brand, and appeal more to consumers.

**Question:** How will deregulation help Florida's consumers and businesses?

- **Response:** Deregulation offers numerous advantages to the consumer in the form of lower prices, more providers, and better products. Businesses – particularly those with only a small market share will be able to explore avenues previously restricted by the government. Less red tape can allow these businesses to be more innovative and ultimately more successful.

**Question:** How will you still ensure consumer protection?

- **Response:** Many of the professional and businesses regulations and licensing requirements included in these bills are regulated by the Federal Trade Commission, local government regulations, and national Associations. Additionally, contractual agreements between businesses can ensure that consumers and business needs are met. Parties can file suit with the courts for breach of contract.
  - Civil remedies through the state attorneys' office are also an option for consumers when a breach of contract has occurred.

#### **LAST SEEN:**

**Economic Affairs  
Committee,  
reported favorably.**



#### **CURRENTLY IN:**

**Appropriations  
Committee:  
488-6204**

**Chair Grimsley:  
488-3457**



#### **HEADED TO:**

**Once the bills are  
reported favorably  
they will be referred  
to their next stop.**



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**Question:** What is the fiscal impact to the state as a result of the decrease in fees, fines, and penalties currently collected and deposited into the agency trust funds?

- **Response:**

- In many cases it costs the state more to regulate these professions and businesses than the revenues generated by their respective fees. The revenues lost a total of \$28.9 million, which is offset with the reduction to state expenditures for regulation, for a total of \$12.8 million that would remain in the industries' pocket from the savings on fees.
- The bills will reduce overhead costs for 114,511 currently licensed or registered private sector occupations and businesses by \$28,943,191, associated with opening certain businesses or entering certain professions. This is the direct result of removing requirements for various professionals and businesses to pay various fees and to submit applications and disclosures.
- There will also be additional savings to the private sector in the future as emerging practitioners and businesses are not required to pay these fees.
- The positive impact on businesses from the relief of regulation will also allow them to expand their businesses, advertise their services, and make expenditures that stimulate economic activity.

**Question:** How many state employees' jobs will the bill eliminate?

- **Response:**

- The state currently utilizes 274 employees to regulate the professions and businesses included in this bill. Not only does this bill reduce state government, in turn it provides financial and regulatory relief to our business industries.
- The increase in business activity and the start up of new businesses will also create new jobs for the private sector.

**Question:** Have there been significant disciplinary actions taken against these professions and businesses in the past as a result of consumer complaints related to health or safety issues?

- **Response:** No. The majority of the consumer complaints filed were related to unlicensed activity rather than health or safety issues.